

SIR:

Please amend the application prior to proceeding with its examination as follows:

### **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

At page 1, of the PCT Published Application, WO 2004/056877, of which this application is a U.S. National Phase, please delete at line 12, for the citation of Eur J. Cancer Prevention, the incorrect page numbers of the reference "pgs 897-904 and substitute the correct pages which are --pgs. 353-358--.

### **State of the Art**

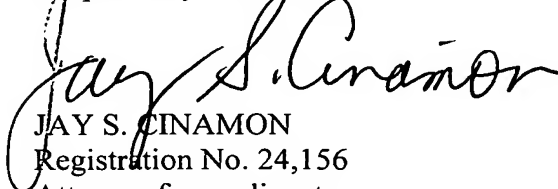
Both Retinoic acid and Butyric acid are molecules used in the treatment of hyperproliferative disorders, particularly in neoplasia.

Butyric Acid (hereafter referred to as BA) is one of the main short-chain fatty acids derived from the colonic fermentation of complex carbohydrates introduced with diet (Hill M.J. Eur. J Cancer Prevention 4: [897-904], 353-358, 1995; Cummings JH., Gut, 22: 763-779, 1981) and is physiologically present in millimolar concentrations in the colon, where it regulates the turnover of colonic epithelial cells by inducing cell differentiation and programmed cell death or apoptosis (Jass JR. Med Hypotheses 18: 113-118, 1985; Guibaud NF, Gas N, Dupont MA, Valette A., J Cell Physiol 145: 162-172, 1990). In addition to carrying out this important physiological role, BA is capable of inhibiting tumor growth according to experimental evidences obtained from a significant series of cell lines representative of the most common human solid tumors (Coradini D, Biffi A, Costa A et al., Cell Prolif 30:149-159, 1997; Coradini D, Pellizzaro C, Marimpietri D et al., Cell Prolif 33: 139-146, 2000; Pellizzaro C, Coradini D, Abolafio G et al., Int J. Cancer 91: 658-664, 2001).

It is respectfully requested that the examination of this application proceed on the basis of the amendatory action taken herein and that this amendment be entered prior to calculating the filing fee and according the application a filing date.

Please charge any fees which may be due and which have not been submitted herewith to our Deposit Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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